

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 SPC-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8623

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 0976

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO BU

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV PARTY ORGAN CHIDES BULGARS ON
MACEDONIAN ISSUE

1. AN UNSIGNED ARTICLE IN MARCH 2 ISSUE KOMUNIST, WHICH EXCERPTED IN MARCH 3 TANJUG BULLETIN, HAS UNKIND WORDS ABOUT BULGARIAN CP PARTY SECRETARY ALEKSANDR LILOV'S FEB 7 REPORT TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON IDEOLOGICAL WORK. IT SEEMS THAT IN COURSE OF REPORT (IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL SUBSTANCE OF WHICH KOMUNIST SOLEMNLY AVERS IS STRICTLY BULGARIAN INTERNAL MATTER) LILOV MENTIONED ONLY POMAKS, TURKS, AND GYPSIES AS MINORITY GROUPS WITHIN THE COUNTRY. KOMUNIST IS UPSET THAT MACEDONIANS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS COMPANY AND STATES THAT THIS IS THE "OLD PRACTICE" OF BULGARIANS NOT RECOGNIZING MACEDONIAN MINORITY IN BULGARIA. ARTICLE POINTS OUT THAT BULGARIAN 1956 CENSUS LISTED 187,000 MACEDONIANS, THE 1965 CENSUS ONLY 8,700 AND NOW ACCORDING TO LILOV, THERE IS NOT A SINGLE MACEDONIAN LEFT. THIS DOES NOT HELP BULGARIAN-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, PER KOMUNIST.

2. COMMENT: ONLY NEW ELEMENT IN OTHERWISE STANDARD
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YUGOSLAV LINE ON MACEDONIAN DISPUTE IS FACT ARTICLE

SPECIFICALLY TAKES ISSUE WITH AN OFFICIAL BULGARIAN CP
REPORT, RATHER THAN THE USUAL "SCHOLARLY" JOURNALS
WRITING ON THIS SUBJECT.
JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

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